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Public Service Commission of South Carolina
Docketing Dept.
P.O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

Reference Docket No. 2009-489-E and be sent to:

I am outraged at the timing of SCE&G's request for an almost 10% rate hike at a time of economic struggle unparalleled since the depression.

Facts known:

- SCE&G was approved for a 2.5 percent rate increase annually for the next decade, following a 4.4 percent rate hike in 2008.
- New rate hike will boost residential power bills for the average SCE&G customer by about \$140 a year by July 2011.
- For Duke Power customers, the cost of 1,000 kilowatt hours is about \$93, following its recent rate increase. For SCE&G, the same level of power costs \$118. The rate boost, if granted, would put it at \$130.

SCE&G has higher rates than other investor-owned utilities, as well as publicly owned Santee-Cooper. I am unemployed and have been unemployed for two and a half (2 ½) years. I cannot afford these higher rates.

Do not raise the rate.

Best regards,



Deborah Hollar